REMARKS

In its Decision on Appeal dated December 21, 2006, the Board of Appeals reversed the rejection of Claims 30 through 37, 42 through 45, 49 through 63, 66 through 69, 73 and 74 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Accordingly, no art rejections remain in the pending application.

The Board did, however, affirm the rejection of Claims 30 through 37, 42 through 46, 49 and 50 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. In response, Applicants submit herewith a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) to overcome the double-patenting rejection based on U.S. Patent No. 6,657,999. There should be no remaining rejections.

An amendment after a final rejection should be entered when it will place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal. 37 C.F.R. 1.116; MPEP 714.12. This amendment places in condition for allowance by removing the only remaining rejection.

Claims 30 through 37, 42 through 45, 49 through 63, 66 through 69, 73 and 74 stand allowable over the cited art and the application is in allowable form. Applicants respectfully requests allowance of the application as the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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